



FAITH
CITY SCHOOL

Te Kura Hāpori o te Whakapono

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Faith City School Newsletter

Edition 3 - Term 1 - 14 April 2022

From the Principal's desk

Kia ora i te whanau

What a term this has been! As I reflect on the term, I think back over my career as a teacher and can honestly say that this term has been the most challenging for us as educators. The unprecedented issues forced on us by Omicron have had a significant impact on teachers across Aotearoa New Zealand. I can say our staff – some who have had Omicron, others who have isolated and worked from home, and those who have remained behind to hold the fort – have been stretched significantly. But I can also say they have held fast and have done an amazing job teaching class and supporting students who have been at home. I am deeply thankful for their commitment, willingness to step in, and to keep things going. Given all the disruption – the students have been so great and just got on with doing school and being kind to one another.

I'm reminded of the scripture that says, "God is faithful. He will not allow you to be tested beyond your ability" 1 Cor10:13; and in Matthew 11:28-30, He says, "Take my yoke... which is easy and light and you will find rest for a weary soul". This Easter as you sit in His presence, which he gave us free access to through the redemption work of the cross and all the benefits that flow from his shed blood, my prayer is that God will strengthen and bless you beyond measure. Thank you too to you our family community for your support, prayer and understanding.

The Big Day In Teacher Only Day

Last Friday, over 200 teachers and support staff from across 15 different Christian schools and Early Childhood Centres in the Lower North Island, met online (and in their own schools) for what was to be the annual 'Big Day Out.' Thanks to Covid restrictions, this became the 'Big Day In.' Keith Newman was the keynote speaker that day. Keith is the author of, 'The Bible and Treaty' and 'Beyond Betrayal' amongst other publications. He is regularly asked to speak on the influence of the bible in the formation of our nation following the arrival of the missionaries in Aotearoa.

His presentations included, 'Bible and Treaty: Reclaiming Christian History' as well as the provocative title, 'Colonial Con or Chiefly Charter.' With such meaty topics, there was no shortage of questions and enlightening discussions that followed!

Keith did an outstanding job of sharing many inspiring stories of the rich heritage that Christianity has in our nation. This helped to restore a more balanced appreciation for the significant influence that men like the brothers **Henry and William Williams** had in forging strong relationships with the Maori community. What was interesting to note, is the fact that many Maori quickly embraced the gospel and were far more influential in sharing the gospel across the country than European missionaries!

UPCOMING DATES TO

Term Two:

**Monday 2 May
to Friday 8 July**

Term Three:

**Monday 25
July to Friday
30 September**

Term Four:

**Starts Monday
17 October**

One of Our Four School Values

Respect for God, Self, Others and Respect for the Environment are our school values. We do the first three really quite well. However, we have some work to do around our response to the environmental issues facing us this century. Therefore, we will be engaging some education regarding this as a school and will likely make some changes to how we as a school are going to respond to pollution, and resource use. One of the things we have already done, is to replace all lighting with LEDs, which makes a significant decrease in electricity usage. We will be looking closer at recycling and will move to as close to zero waste as much as is possible. Your ideas and support with this will be appreciated. We have two excellent senior student leaders who will help us lead this change through to the year's end so we can be Respectful of the Environment as we say we are going to be.

New Teacher on board – Nau Mai Haere Mai

The school is pleased to announce that we have appointed a new full-time teacher to the school. Mrs Larissa Akkerman will take over in Room 6 with our Year 4 and 5 students. Mrs Akkerman comes to us from Wellington, where she was educated at Silverstream Christian School and graduated from Victoria University with a degree in Education and English Literature. She has strengths in literacy and maths, enjoys sport and is fully involved in her church. Recently married, Larissa has moved to Whanganui and resides in Fordell with her husband. We are certainly blessed to have her on our team.

Have a great Easter everyone!

Marty Bullock

Principal

Outdoor Basketball Hoop System

We installed a new outdoor basketball system recently after the old one gave up the ghost.

The system can go up and down, making it user friendly for the younger kids.

The students are really enjoying it.



Tabloid Sports Afternoon

Friday 18 March



Room 2 - Ball Skills

Some of Room 2 students working together, to practice their skills in throwing and catching the ball during PE.



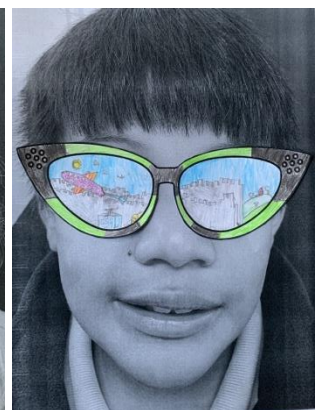
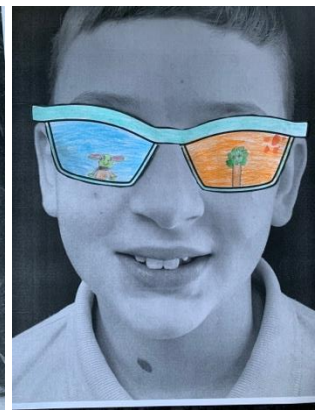
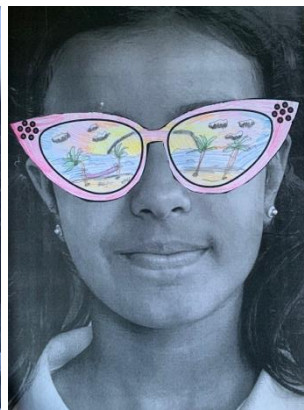
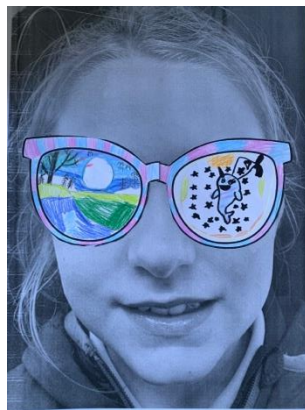
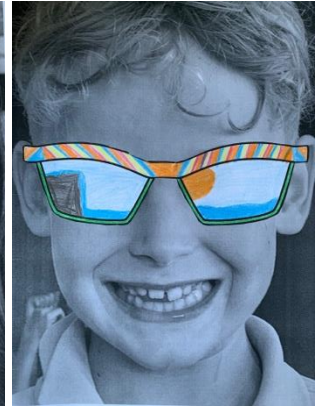
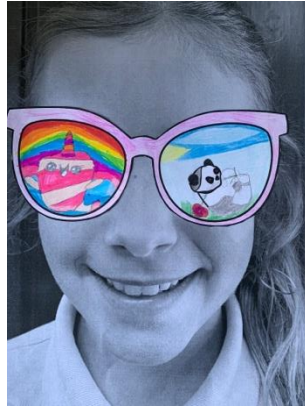
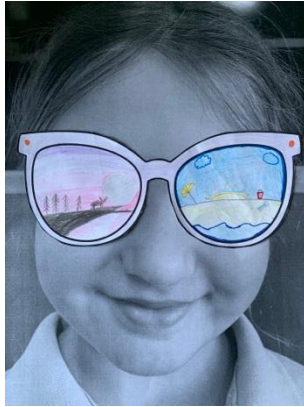
Room 5 - Learning Creatively

Thinking ahead to ANZAC Day, Room 5 has produced some art relating to the poppy-covered Flanders Fields, Belgium, during World War 1.

They have also created some mixed media artwork showing how the water cycle works. Mayumi labelled the parts of the water cycle on hers. All students had to explain how it worked by pointing to parts of their pictures and using the correct terminology.

Room 6 - Harmonious Colours

For Art in Room 6, we learned about harmonious colours and contrasting colours and the impact they have on their viewers. We decided on the colour we would use for our ideas of what we might see wearing sunglasses.



Room 4 - Supporting Others & Descriptive Writing

Room 4 leaders decorated bags for the Cancer Society Candle bag ceremony held in Whanganui last week. The ceremony was a fundraiser for the Cancer Society and a way to remember loved ones who have succumbed to cancer.

A society member said, "We will be selling the candle bags. The idea is that you will name and decorate the bags and, on the night, we will put candles in them and sing as we do our remembrance."



An example of Room 4's descriptive writing:

Her gray tipped coat gleamed in the glittering moonlight. Her damp nose
pointed to the direction of the full moon.

A single harmonized howl filled the air.

Dew drops from a nearby fern dripped onto the muddy soil.

The misty sky was coated with the dark void of space.

Very few clouds filled the sky.

A blanket of dazzling stars twinkled from within the depths of the
universe.

Mud camouflaged her coarse paws.

Caramel, swirled with rich chocolate brown, blended from within the
safety of her eyelids, creating a hazel eye colour.

Her thick winter coverage was frosted gray along her spine while a snow-
white line of fur covered her belly.

Several howls echoed from within the dark woods to join her in carol.

By Dulcie Jean
Room 4

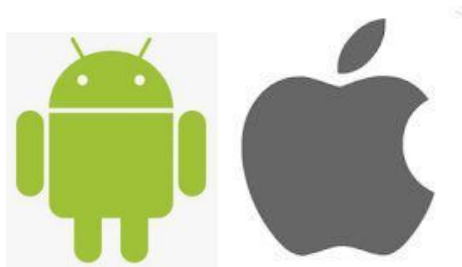
Edge App - Info & Setup

We are moving away from Skool Loop for submitting any absences for your child/children and will be using the Edge App. This App enters information directly to the database that the school uses so your child's teacher and the office staff will be able to see any absentees that you have sent via the App. You can also view Payments which will show any charges on your account and you can also receive Notifications (short messages) from us about upcoming events etc.

Logging into the Edge App is quick and easy with just a few steps required to get you underway.

Download the app for your device. It is available for both Apple and Android devices and can be downloaded from either the Play Store or Apple App Store.

Click on the icon below to go directly to the app download page. Follow the prompts.



If you need any help installing the app please just call into the office and Abbie or Robyn can help you.



*Everyone
is Welcome*

Every Tuesday and Thursday morning before school we run a Breakfast Club. This starts at 8.20am and finishes at 8.50am. All students are welcome to come and enjoy a bowl of weetbix as well as a warm mug of milo.

This has become an awesome chance for students to have a good, hearty breakfast as well as a social get together.

Our wonderful volunteers are Jordan, Liana and Erana. However, if you would like to join the team just pop in and see Jordan (during Breakfast Club time), she would love to talk to you and have you on board.

Faith City Year 7 & 8 Touch Team 2nd Place in Competition



PTA News

Thanks to all those who contributed to the Easter egg fundraiser. Every contribution helps! We have raised \$305.

Would you like to be involved with the PTA? Please speak to Erica or Lennie. You can be involved in the planning team and/or be available to help with a fundraiser, let us know if you would like to help!